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The legislative instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jeanne C. Johnston.

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## CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

Senate Bill No. 488 by Senator Nevers

### **Keyword and summary of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee**

KEYWORD. POSTSECONDARY ED. Provides relative to rules adopted by the Board of Regents and the appointment of the commissioner of higher education. (gov sig)

### **Report adopts House amendments to:**

1. Additionally require the board to include agreements entered into in the list of items for which a copy must be submitted to the Senate and House committees on education if such was not adopted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

### **Report amends the bill to:**

1. Statutorily create the position of commissioner of higher education to be appointed by the Board of Regents, subject to confirmation by the Senate.
2. Provide for the qualifications, powers, duties, functions, and compensation of the commissioner of higher education.

### **Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee**

Present law requires the Board of Regents to adopt rules for the transaction of its business and to keep an accurate record of all of its proceedings and official actions. Further requires that all papers, documents, and records appertaining to the board be filed at the board's domicile.

Proposed law provides that rules adopted by the board, other than those adopted to regulate the internal management of the board's affairs, must be adopted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. Further requires the board to submit a copy of any order, rule, regulation, plan, agreement, policy, or recommendation so adopted to the Senate Committee on Education and the House Committee on Education, along with the written reasons and explanations and a summary report of the proceedings of the public hearings conducted.

Proposed law statutorily creates the position of commissioner of higher education.

Provides that the Board of Regents shall appoint a commissioner of higher education to

administer and implement board programs and policies.

Provides that the commissioner of higher education shall possess such qualifications and have such other powers, functions, duties, and responsibilities as established by the board or as provided by law.

Provides that the commissioner of higher education shall be appointed by a two-thirds vote of the total membership of the Board of Regents and shall be subject to confirmation by the Senate.

Provides that the salary of the commissioner of higher education shall be determined by the Board of Regents, subject to the approval of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:3123(D) and 3133; Adds R.S. 17:3123.1)